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An Appendix on "The Priest and Education," by Bishop McDevitt, fitly closes the volume.

Dr. Dunney has an unusual command of language. His exposition of the incident on the Road to Emmaus, for example (pp. 208ff), reaches really great heights. The whole book would be valuable if it contained little besides this. His use of words is daring in its unusualness sometimes, but the very startling quality it possesses lends strength to the argument and causes one to consider more carefully the excellent subject matter. This is a book for every superintendent, principal, teacher, priest, seminarian, and novice in a teaching order to master thoroughly. We most heartily commend it to everyone who may have to do with any portion of our parish school system.

FLOYD KEELER, M.A., S.T.B.

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**E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Company, 1802-1902**, by Mrs. B. G. du Pont. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1920. Pp. 196.

Few are the biographies of our masters of capital and business, and few are the studies of our great industrial concerns; yet, until such material is available the history of American industrial development cannot be written. While such studies are apt to be partisan, apologetic and possibly advertising in purpose, still they will supplement our information and give color to the dry annals of our economic history. Mrs. B. G. du Pont, in her century of the *E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Company*, has made a valuable contribution, which recalls the elaborate centennial publication of the German Krupps, which appeared on the eve of the war. It is a readable account of a huge organization, but coming from a member of the family, its candor may be questioned. Possibly there was nothing to reveal and nothing to conceal in management or in policy.

Pierre du Pont de Nemours, moderate constitutionalist statesman, pamphleteer, escaped the guillotine on Robespierre's fall. Later, in editorial difficulty, he, together with his sons Victor and E. I. du Pont, turned to America, engaging in land speculation, export trade, and incidentally the powder business at Brandywine. A friend of Lafayette, Talleyrand, Franklin, and Jefferson, his future seemed assured, but misfortune followed. Only E. I. du Pont, chemist and experienced powder-man, re-

mained, and his venture alone was to prove successful, pay dividends to its stockholders, and satisfy the family creditors. Small were the beginnings of the plant, although semi-officially encouraged by France, manned by French workmen and agents, and financed by French capital to the extent of a few thousand dollars. Its early management was trying, due to clamoring creditors, its foreign character, difficulty of transportation, English control of salt-petre, and losses through explosions. Of competition there was little, for the Du Ponts alone could offer a product equal to that imported. The War of 1812 put the industry on its feet, and won for its chief the approbation of the administration. Du Pont was a patriotic American, but he loved France too well to think of profits, when it was a matter of munitions to be used against England.

Hard years followed the war in the powder as in every other business. Losses were heavy, through bankruptcies, explosions, and real estate depreciation. French capital was wary, though loans were granted by Talleyrand and Mme. de Staël. Only canal contractors and the Astor Fur Company were dependable customers. Still by 1832, according to a report to the government, some 850,000 pounds of powder were refined annually. Du Ponts refused to sell South Carolina munitions in the days of nullification, just as later they scrutinized foreign orders, lest their powders be used by Mexicans against our forces. In the Crimean War, England was humbled sufficiently to buy Du Pont explosives, the beginning of an export business. E. I. du Pont was long dead, his son-in-law, Bidermann, had retired, and the firm had passed into the hands of the second and third generation.

The Civil War, contrary to general belief, did not increase fabulously the firm's prosperity. Business was not larger than during peace, for construction, farm-extension, and railroad building ceased, and the Southern and foreign markets were embargoed. Major-General Henry du Pont proved himself no profiteer. The industry received huge orders, but rendered service. Lamont du Pont, as our agent, cornered the English salt-petre market, but, so near did the Trent affair come to embroiling us in war with England, that difficulty was experienced in obtaining carriage to America. The war over, the du Ponts gladly turned to the more profitable business of supplying explosives to the railroad builders and to the arming nations of Europe. Chemical improvements, Chile nitrate fields, new high

explosives and fighting competition were the interests of the concern under the engineers and powder chemists, Henry and Eugene du Pont. Great strides were made.

As in other industries, about 1880 the period of combination arrived. Rival companies were bought out or controlled—the Hazard Powder Company, California (Hercules) Powder, Hecla, Repauno Chemical, Eastern Dynamite, and others. Mills were established in new centres. A single powder mill had become an industry. The partnership was made a corporation in 1899; stenographers had been recently employed; the 6-mule powder team, as a carrier, was no longer seen; members of the family served no longer as foremen, chemists, and supervising shell-loaders. The tradition of personal management was going, the name alone remained.

Then came the inevitable re-organization. Coleman, Alfred, Pierre and Charles bought out the other representatives of the fourth generation for \$12,000,000—no small sum, yet, as corporations go, a small amount for a century-old industry, offering proof of conservative, non-speculative, honest management. The company celebrated the transition, yet officials and employees could but wonder if in the “industrial stage” of the firm the old pleasant, intimate relationship between owners and men could be maintained.

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**Chicago, A History and Forecast**, edited by William Hudson Harper. Published by Chicago Association of Commerce. Chicago, 1921. Pp. 256.

This neat-appearing brochure is something more than an aid to Chicago business propaganda, as one might at first suppose. It has real historical worth as a summary of the city's social and industrial development in the fifty years since the great fire of 1871. It is a proud story, indicative of American energy and Chicago vigor. Milton Quaife, of the Chicago Historical Society, contributes an account of the city from Jolliet and Marquette to the Great Fire, whence it is continued by Miss Mabel McIlvaine, of the Fort Dearborn Magazine.

A section on the city's religious life emphasizes the mighty endeavors of the Catholic Church. The first missionary was Marquette, who passed the winter of 1674 preaching to the Indians; the first resident priest, Fr. St. Cyr, 1833; and the first bishop,